# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2974
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Use of Endosulphan
Premachandran Shri N.K.

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government proposes to ban endosulphan, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the use of endosulphan caused health hazards to people of Kasargod District of Kerala, if so, the action taken by the Government to compensate these victims; and

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the farmers are using banned pesticides in large quantity which causes health hazards, if so, the action taken by the Government to control the use of pesticides?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): A writ petition (civil) No. 213 of 2011 "Democratic Youth Federation of India vs Union of India & Ors" was filed in Hon'ble Supreme Court requesting inter alia for ban on Endosulfan. The Supreme Court passed an ad-interim order on 13.05.2011 banning production sale and use of Endosulfan in the country till further orders. Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to implement the interim order of the Court in toto, which are binding on all manufacturers. The Secretariat of Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee has written to the Pesticide Associations to recall Certificates of Registration for Endosulfan. These certificates have been treated as withdrawn in compliance of Supreme Court's directions.

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(b): Health problems were reported in Kasargod district of Kerala allegedly due to aerial spraying of Endosulfan in cashew plantations. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare based on the proposal of the State Government, inter alia, approved an amount of Rs 5.6 crores under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for rehabilitation of Endosulfan victims.

(c): Monitoring of quality of pesticides is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments. Central Government and State Governments have notified 168 and 11,229 Insecticides Inspectors respectively to check sale of misbranded pesticides. Insecticide samples are drawn on regular basis and analyzed in 68 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) and at the two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh and Kanpur. As per reports provided by the State Governments, 44139 samples of pesticides were analyzed during the year 2015-16 (upto December 2015), out of which 1165 samples were found (2.64%) were found misbranded, where legal action is initiated under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

In addition, Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) under the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare conducts Farmers Field Schools to sensitize farmers regarding safe and judicious use of pesticides, use of bio-pesticides etc. A 'Grow Safe Food' campaign has also been initiated to carrying the message of safe and judicious use of pesticides to farmers and other stakeholders. Package of practices for control of pests and diseases in 67 crops have been revised to include techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides and other alternative plant protection measures.

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